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Tajuk : Conference To Combat Global Warming.

HOME

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13

Conference to combat global warming

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KUCHING: A comprehensive approach on green energy to counter global warming and the depletion of oil wells will be discussed at the World Hybrid Technologies and Energy Conference 2013.

The conference will also revolve around the research and development (R&D) of solar energy seen as an economically optimal approach in producing green and renewable electricity for the state.

"I feel that solar energy is rarely used in this region as the technology needs to be tweaked and further developed," said Assistant Minister in the Chief Minister's Office (Technical Education) Datu Len Talif Salleh at the launch of the conference at Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) yesterday.

The two-day conference ending today includes the presentation of 40 papers in four parallels related to energy and hybrid to

100 engineering educators and industry professionals from the global energy sector.

Len who is also Tabung Ekonomi Gagasan Anak Bumiputera (Tegas) chairman said the conference is linked to the state's economic transformation via technical and vocational education aimed at producing a society knowledgeable in renewable energy.

He also said Sarawak's remote communities need small power generation using standalone systems based on solar energy, micro-hydro, biomass or hybrid form.

"The renewable electricity can be connected to the grid of Sarawak Energy Berhad if approved by the ministry," he suggested.

He said the energy plan for Malaysia is to increase the output of renewable power system from 500MW in 2013 to 2000MW by 2020 and 4000 MW by 2030.

The carbon emission will also be reduced by 10 per cent by 2020 and an estimated 20 per cent by 2030.

"This means that 42 million and 145 million tonnes of carbon dioxide will be avoided from the power generation sector by 2020 and 2030 respectively. The state will also save a minimum of RM2.1 billion in external cost to mitigate carbon dioxide emission," he added.

He also said new development projects are undertaken by countries such as China, Australia, America and North Africa using solar, concentrated photovoltaic, wind, solar thermal, solar heat and small hydro plant linked to a smart grid or micro-grid power systems.

The results of the conference, organised by the Asia Pacific Society of Solar And Hybrid Technology (APSSAHT) and sponsored by Tegas, will be published in the International Solar Energy Society journals.

IT'S ON: Len (centre) signs a plaque to launch the World Hybrid Technologies and Energy Conference 2013. — Photo by Chimon Upon

